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## Notes: Lenten Address: My God, My God, Why Hast Thou Forsaken Me (Matthew 27:46), 1947

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TEXT

Matth. 27, 46

THEME

OCCASION

My God, my God -

why hast Thou forsaken  
me?Valparaiso, March 12, 1947.

1. No doubt - words just read - are the most mysterious sentences in the entire body of divine revelation - for almost 1800 years theologians have argued about their <sup>what is</sup> meaning - <sup>he is saying</sup> now, if you look at them only from the human point of view they are quite simple & clear - a young man, a good man finds Himself, through no fault of His own, dying on a cross - He had desecrated the lust from life but was given the worst - betrayed, mocked, beaten, murdered - He had seen His friends forsake Him - and so it was only natural that in His agony and weariness He should decide that God had also forsaken Him - that there was nothing left - He was doomed to die in a forgetful and oblivious Universe - He had come to the end of the road - alone - even God had disappeared -

2. Now that explanation all right if we're dealing here with an ordinary human being - that's the way it would work out - we could understand it, feel sorry for Him as we have for soldiers in battle who sometimes are afraid and alone - and then go about our business - But as soon as we remember that we are listening to the Son of God, the Godman Himself, the cry "My God" becomes mysterious as nothing else in history - either it's true or it isn't true - either God had really forsaken Him or He was only imagining it - He had momentarily lost His faith - He has been broken, in mind & spirit, by the physical torture & the spiritual agony of the Cross -

3. To the Christian mind a heart that is impossible - our Lord was never mistaken about anything - he would not go wrong now at the moment when the world depended on Him - & so other explanation sought: opening words of 22<sup>nd</sup> Psalm reciting it - the rest lost in the roar of the crowd - or by a shift into Aramaic "My God for this I have been kept."

